



State Fish: Apache Trout



SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Oncorhynchus apache*

DESCRIPTION: Rarely exceeds 10 inches in streams, but may grow to longer than 15 inches in lakes and hatcheries. Body coloration is golden-yellow or olive-yellow with a golden belly. Even distribution of round or oval black spots on top of head and sides of body. Dorsal, pelvic and anal fins are tipped with a white or orange color. Orange mark under the jaw.

RANGE: Currently restricted to the headwaters of the Salt, Little Colorado, and Blue rivers in the White Mountains of Arizona. May have also occupied the headwater of the San Francisco, Black, and White rivers. Found at elevations of 5,780 feet or higher.

HABITAT: Cool, clear, high elevation streams and rivers. May also live in pools or near obstructions or cover such as overhanging trees.

DIET: Insectivore. Eats both aquatic and terrestrial insects.

ACTIVITY PERIOD: Nocturnal downstream movements.

REPRODUCTION: Spawning from March to mid-June. Redd construction in downstream pools with temperatures of 8°C. Can produce up to 1,083 eggs. Fry hatch in 30 days and leave redd after another 30 days.

STATUS: Threatened in Arizona. As of 1995, there were 20 pure and 6 reintroduced populations. More than 95% of original habitat is gone from habitat degradation and the introduction of non-native fish. Recovery efforts are underway.

Arizona Game and Fish Department. 2001. *Oncorhynchus apache*. Unpublished abstract compiled and edited by the Heritage Data Management System, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Phoenix, AZ. 6 pp.

Photo: G. Andrejko